

VIRGINIA

GAZETTE.

With the freshest ADVICES,

FOREIGN and DOMESTICK.



LONDON, November 14.

THE report of his Royal Highness the Duke of York being to be created Lord High Admiral of Great Britain is again revived, and that he will be assisted in the management of that high department by a council of Rear Admirals, who have done honour to the British flag, both at home and abroad.

We hear that in many churches on Sunday last the sermons were judiciously adapted to the mournful occasion of publick sorrow, for the loss of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland; and, particularly, we are told the afternoon preacher in one parish church, within the Liberty of Westminster, paid a just tribute of praise to the high merits of that amiable Prince, by saying, "That his country owed to him the most eminent services, particularly by repelling the invasion of daring rebels; that he had no friends but the friends of freedom, nor any foes but the enemies of his King, his country, and his religion; and that his loss was at this time a great publick misfortune, when his councils were so needful for the support of a tottering state."

It is now again confidently asserted that a certain American Governour is actually superseded.

Some new prohibitions of the Portuguese Ministry against the exportation of gold coin out of that kingdom, it is said, have been the object of certain late Councils on this side of the water.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint William Gordon, Esq; to be his Minister at the Court of Brussels, in the room of Sir James Porter, who is recalled.

It is reported that a noble Lord, worn out in the service of his country, will soon retire from all publick business, with an appointment of 7000 l. per annum.

A few days ago the Right Hon. the Marquis of Rockingham sent a polite message to Sir Robert Ladbrooke and Sir William Stephenson, requesting an interview; and on their waiting on him, his Lordship informed them that his Majesty, after the example of his Royal grandfather, on a similar occasion (the great fire in Cornhill in 1748, in the mayoralty of Sir Robert Ladbrooke) had been pleased to order 1000 l. to be applied for the benefit of the unhappy sufferers at the fire which broke out on Thursday last in Bishopsgate street; and directions were accordingly given for the immediate payment thereof to Sir William Stephenson, that Gentleman being Lord Mayor at the time of the last dreadful conflagration.

On Wednesday and Thursday last the Right Hon. Lord Camden had two conferences with his Majesty.

Nov. 16. Advice from the Hague, of the 10th of this month, inform us that Sir Joseph Yorke, his Britannick Majesty's Minister there, was preparing to return to England, to take upon him a considerable employment under the Government.

Yesterday an extraordinary messenger was despatched to his Grace the Duke of Richmond at Paris.

A curious marble bust of the Right Hon. Lord Camden, we are informed, is now executing by an eminent artist, to be placed in the Temple of Worthies at Stowe, in Buckinghamshire.

A bill is to be brought into the Parliament in Ireland, in their present session, for augmenting their currency to an equality with English sterling money.

The late Duke of Cumberland's stud, we are credibly informed, will not be sold for less than 50,000 l.

We hear the forfeited estates in Scotland, which were settled upon his late Royal Highness, will be settled upon his Royal Highness the Duke of York.

The report of the French having refused the payment of the Canada bills is without foundation; the 24th instant, it is said, being fixed upon for adjusting and settling the time of payment, to the entire satisfaction of the proprietors.

The Right Hon. Mr. Pitt is expected at his house in Jermyn street next Friday, from Somersetshire, to reside here during the winter.

A plan is now under consideration, laid down by Major Rogers, in order to discover the North West passage over North America by land, which so often in vain has been attempted by sea.

There has been a numerous meeting of Gentlemen at the old castle of Exeter, to draw up a petition to the Parliament for a total repeal of the Cider Act.

A letter from Truro mentions that great quantities of timber and planks, supposed to be part of the cargo

of some wrecked North American vessel, have lately been cast ashore there.

A list was published in the papers of the 12th of a total change in the Ministry, that it was said would certainly take place before the meeting of Parliament. In this list the Duke of Bedford and Mr. Pitt were to be of the Cabinet Council, but to hold no offices; Mr. Grenville, First Lord of the Treasury, &c. But several reasons are produced to show that there is not the least degree of credit to be given to this intelligence.

An express, with extraordinary despatches from the Duke of Richmond at Paris, is just arrived.

They write from St. Malo that Evellak, belonging to that port, had been taken by the English on the Banks of Newfoundland.

The vacant Red Garter, late Sir Charles Howard's, we hear is intended for the gallant Sir William Johnson, now in America.

Lord Charles Montague is appointed Governour of South Carolina.

It was generally expected, when the last letters were received from New England, that not one lawyer on the American continent would make use of the new stamps lately arrived from England.

On Monday evening, and not before, arrived at his house in town, the Right Hon. Lord Adam Gordon, Colonel of his Majesty's 66th regiment of foot, and Member of Parliament for Aberdeenshire, from the West Indies, but last from New York. With his Lordship came over John Johnson, Esq; son and heir to Sir William Johnson, Baronet, his Majesty's Superintendent of Indian affairs in the northern district of America.

Nov. 22. Wednesday the Right Hon. Lord Adam Gordon had a conference with his Majesty's Secretaries of State, when it is said his Lordship informed them of the present state of North America, and of the uneasiness of the people on account of the new Stamp Act.

Nov. 23. Yesterday there was a great levee at St. James's, and also a Privy Council, at which his Majesty, the Right Hon. the Earl of Winchelsea, President, and several principal Lords of the Council, assisted, which is said to be on affairs relating to the plantations.

Yesterday there was a great Board of Treasury, which sat a considerable time.

John Johnson, Esq; son to Sir William Johnson, his Majesty's Superintendent for North America, has brought over some very curious Indian productions, as a present to her Majesty.

It is said that Sir William Johnson, fatigued by his unwearied application to the interest of America for many years past, intends soon to retire from publick business; and that his son, John Johnson, Esq; arrived from thence, will be appointed to succeed him in the Superintendence of Indian affairs for the Northern provinces.

Yesterday arrived a mail from France, by which we have the following advices, viz. From Smyrna, by way of Leghorn, that the Georgians, after having gained several advantages over the Turks, had at length come to a pitched battle with them, wherein the Turks had upwards of 6000 men killed, and a great number wounded and made prisoners.

It is reported that the Right Hon. Lord Adam Gordon will soon be appointed an American Governour.

It is said that one of our Ambassadors at a foreign Court has received orders to take his leave within a month, unless some concessions are made in that time for some insults offered to the British flag in the Mediterranean.

We hear that a treaty is now on the carpet with the Court of Spain, for the English to have liberty to resort to and cut logwood at Rattan isle, near Campeachy.

From the extra attendance which his Majesty's Messengers, and those of the Secretaries of State, have for some days past given at the respective offices, it is reported that business of much importance is upon the carpet.

The report of the day is that the Hon. Mr. G. is about to retire from all future connexions of a publick nature, with a large appointment, and Peerage.

It is reported that all our sea and land officers in the service of a foreign Prince will soon be recalled.

In some despatches just received from a Gentleman in high office in America, we are credibly informed he has mentioned that should the late act of Parliament be carried into execution for enforcing the Stamp Duty, the tax must be levied by military collectors; for as to persons of civil employ, it was apprehended not one would be found hardy enough to undertake an office so disagreeable to all ranks of people, as well as dangerous in itself.

Lord Camden, we hear, will deliver his opinion concerning the legality of warrants issued by Secretaries of State, on Wednesday next.

It is now pretty confidently asserted that a great Nobleman is making over all his estates in trust, and intends to make a speedy retreat to another country.

His Majesty has conferred the honour of Knighthood on Sir William Johnson's son, who lately arrived from America.

It is said that his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland gave away near 6000 l. annually, in private charities.

A Gentleman at the west end of the town has received so great a shock by the sudden death of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland that he has actually ordered a coffin to be made for himself, the lid of which is to have neither knees nor nails, but to be fastened with two hinges on each side, and open in the middle, like a folding door; the coffin is to be brought to his house the 10th of next month, he then entering into the 68th year of his age.

We have been favoured with the following anecdote: When a noble Lord went to the highest personage in this kingdom, with the key of the cabinet of a noble and well beloved Prince, lately deceased, and presented it, as containing his secret papers, the key was returned in the most obliging manner, desiring the noble Lord to destroy such papers as his Lordship imagined that Prince would have destroyed, and to bring back those only which he imagined might be serviceable to the state.

Letters from Constantinople advise that there had been a second engagement between the Georgians and the Turks, wherein the latter being defeated, orders had been sent into Lesser Asia to assemble all the Turkish troops in that province, to march against the Georgians, in order to reduce them to their former obedience.

We hear our merchants in Portugal have been so entirely deprived of those privileges to which they are entitled by national treaties, that the Lisbon factory lately, when assembled to choose a Judge Conservator, resolved, 36 against 4, to elect no one to that office, as they thought their doing it could no longer answer any good purpose whatsoever.

It is said, from good authority, that our trade to that kingdom is of late so much declined that the annual balance thereof in our favour is now become less than 100,000 l. and the annual number of our ships, going to the port of Lisbon, has sunk, from between 7 and 800, to between 3 and 400, while the commerce of other countries rather increases there, and most of all that of France, and in what should be very alarming to us, woollen manufactures.

We likewise hear that all English silks are prohibited importation in that kingdom, except plain satins and watered tabbies, while the velvets, damasks, &c. of Genoa, suffer not the least obstruction; and that the duties on some of our goods are made so enormous as in effect to answer the purpose of a prohibition; as for example, knit places for mens wear, which, as a woollen manufacture, by the stipulations of treaties, should never pay more duties than 25 per cent. but are now charged at the custom-house with above 80 per cent. duties.

Nov. 23. We hear a committee of merchants, trading to Portugal, will soon wait on his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, on affairs of great importance.

On Wednesday evening a species of hemp, the natural product of America, was presented to the Society of Arts, and referred to a Committee, that a proper examination might be made of its utility in our manufactures.

The resolution taken by the Bishop of London, for suppressing the number of private mass houses in and about this metropolis, has already in a great measure had the desired effect, several being already shut up, and the Priests absconded, to avoid a prosecution.

Nov. 26. On Friday the Right Hon. Ralph Earl Varney was by his Majesty's command sworn of his Majesty's Most Hon. Privy Council, and took his place at the Board accordingly.

On Wednesday last Lord Adam Gordon kissed his Majesty's hand, on his arrival from America; and on Friday his Lordship had the honour of an audience, when he presented to his Majesty an address, and a belt of wampum, from the Mohawks, as the head of the Six United Indian nations, likewise a speech and belt from the Seven Confederate Indian nations, living within the inhabited part of Canada, all of which his Majesty was pleased very graciously to receive.

Yesterday morning some despatches, said to be of importance, were received from Sir Joseph Yorke, his Majesty's Ambassador at the Hague.

There is a confirmation by the Flanders mail today that near half the city of Casan (capital of the kingdom of that name, which makes a part of the Russian Empire) was destroyed by fire on the 26th of August last, together with great quantities of grain, furs, and other valuable merchandise, just arrived from Persia and China.

Nov. 28. On Tuesday night the Hon. Col. Barre, Member for Wycomb, in Bucks, arrived in town from Italy; and yesterday he waited on his Majesty at St. James's.

Yesterday the Right Hon. Lord Camden gave his opinion upon the granting of general warrants by Secretaries of State. After enlarging on and explaining numbers of cases, which lasted two hours and twenty minutes, his Lordship declared such warrants (except in cases of high treason) to be illegal, oppressive, and unwarrantable.

By letters from Constantinople, it appears that, besides the war in Georgia, troubles were increasing on the side of Bagdad, whither a considerable body of troops had been just sent by the Ottoman Court.

We are told from Italy, by this day's Flanders mail, that the plague has lately appeared in the provinces of Bosnia and Erzegovine, on the frontiers of the Austrian dominions.

We are informed, by letters from the Lower Elbe, that such vast quantities of grain are amassing in those quarters, on the account of a certain Power, that the price thereof is risen very considerably.

Several despatches of the utmost importance, it is said, have been received at Secretary Conway's office from the American Governours, relative to the stamp offices.

It is said a great General, who eminently distinguished himself in the late war, has declared his opinion that hostilities will commence between England and two neighbouring Powers in less than 6 months.

Letters from Newfoundland advise that the French fishery would break up about the last of November for the season, after which Governour Palliser had allowed a month to remove their stages, &c. on the penalty of their being destroyed.

On the 25th some more Gentlemen, late Stamp Officers in America, arrived in town from Virginia. The demand for English goods for Jamaica is 150,000 l. less this year than usual.

Dec. 12. Mrs. Draper, midwife to her Majesty, will remove in a few days to St. James's, to be ready against the lying-in of the Princess of Brunswick.

Letters from Spain advise that the Spanish Government had sent positive orders to the Governours in Mexico to try all mild and conciliating means to reduce the rebels to obedience, and to avoid rigorous proceedings as much as possible.

Every day this week a Council has been held, at which his Majesty has been present.

It is now said that there will in a few days be great changes in the Ministry.

Yesterday his Grace the Duke of Bolton, and the Right Hon. Earl Temple, waited on his Majesty at St. James's.

Extract of a letter from Hamburg, Nov. 29.

"We are well informed that the King of Prussia is taking new arrangements for increasing and extending the manufactures of Silesia, where they are already in a flourishing condition. Our merchants see with regret that those of Berlin, Magdeburgh, Stettin, Breslau, and other cities, under the dominion of his Prussian Majesty, become more and more their rivals, and that they succeed but too well in their enterprises, through the favour and protection of their monarch."

Publick prayers are put up at Rome for obtaining a cessation of the rains, which have done great damage in the country.

A few days ago a Custom-house officer at Hartly shot a woodcock, in the stomach of which he found a diamond of considerable value.

WHITEHALL, Nov. 3. The King has been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. John Earl of Breadalbane to be Keeper of his Majesty's Privy Seal of Scotland, in the room of the Right Hon. Frederick Campbell, commonly called Lord Frederick Campbell.

The King has been pleased to grant unto Sir Edward Hawke, Knight of the Bath, the offices of Vice Admiral of Great Britain, and Lieutenant of the Admiralty thereof; and also of Lieutenant of the Navies and Seas of his Majesty's kingdom of Great Britain, in the room of Henry Osborn, Esq.

The King has been pleased to grant unto Sir Charles Knowles, Bart. the offices or places of Rear

Admiral of Great Britain, and of the Admiralty thereof; and of Rear Admiral of the Navies and Seas of the kingdom of Great Britain, in the room of Sir Edward Hawke, Knight of the Bath.

WESTMINSTER, December 17.

This day his Majesty came to the House of Peers, and being in his Royal robes seated on the throne with the usual solemnity, Sir Francis Molineux, Knt. Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, his Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious speech:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE present general state of tranquillity in Europe gave me hopes that it would not have been necessary to assemble my Parliament sooner than is usual in times of peace; but as matters of importance have lately occurred in some of my colonies in America, which will demand the most serious attention of Parliament, and as further informations are daily expected from different parts of that country, of which I shall order the fullest accounts to be prepared for your consideration, I have thought fit to call you now together, in order that opportunity may thereby be given to issue the necessary writs on the many vacancies that have happened in the House of Commons since the last session; so that the Parliament may be full, to proceed, immediately after the usual recess, on the consideration of such weighty matters as will then come before you.

BOSTON, January 9.

It is said that those at home, who are of the best judgment in American affairs, make no doubt that the burthens which the colonies labour under will be taken off, and the Stamp Act repealed, when the Parliament meets, and the united memorials of the people are received.

It is reported that one of his Majesty's ships was soon to sail from England for these parts, and that an American Gentleman was to embark with despatches for the several Governments on this continent.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman of great credit in London to a friend in this town, dated Nov. 9.

"We have now the pleasure to acquaint you our new Ministry have laid a plan for retrieving you from the oppression the old Ministry laid you under, which has rendered them odious to the people here; and a few months will quite change the face of affairs, for they are resolved not only to take off the Stamp Duty, and duty on molasses, but to give you several positive advantages."

An account from England, about the same date, says that they at home have adopted a new system with respect to America; they will give all indulgence to trade; the Stamp Act they will in some respects relax, but will not repeal.

It is strongly reported in England we should very soon be relieved from the late grievous impositions, and that measures the most salutary and beneficial to the colonies had been resolved upon, in some important Councils at the west end of the town, as a London paper mentions.

This morning, about six o'clock, was felt here a considerable earthquake; the undulatory motion was from N. W. to S. E. without any preceptible noise attending.

Extract from the minutes of the Journal of the Hon. House of Representatives.

Ordered, that the extract of the letter from the Right Hon. Mr. Secretary Conway, to his Excellency the Governour, accompanying his message, be printed in the Journal.

Extract of a letter from the Right Hon. Henry Seymour Conway, Esq. one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, to Governour Bernard, dated at St. James's, October 24, 1765.

"IT is with the greatest concern his Majesty learns the disturbances which have lately arisen in your province, the general confusion that seems to reign there, and the total languor and want of energy in your Government to exert itself, with any dignity or efficacy, for the suppression of tumults, which seem to strike at the very being of all authority and subordination amongst you.

"Nothing can certainly exceed the ill advised and intemperate conduct held by a party in your province, which can in no way contribute to the removal of any real grievance they might labour under, but may tend to impede and obstruct the exertion of his Majesty's benevolent attention to the ease and comfort, as well as to the welfare, of all his people.

"It is hoped and expected that this want of confidence in the justice and tenderness of the mother country, and this open resistance to its authority, can only have found place among the lower and more ignorant of the people; the better and wiser part of the colonies will know that decency and submission may prevail, not only to redress grievances, but to obtain grace and favour, while the outrage of a publick violence can expect nothing but severity and chastisement.

"These sentiments you, and all his Majesty's servants, from a sense of your duty to, and love of your country, will endeavour to excite and encourage. You will all, in a particular manner, call upon them

not to render their case desperate. You will in the strongest colours represent to them the dreadful consequences that must inevitably attend the forcible and violent resistance to acts of the British Parliament, and the scene of misery and destruction to both countries inseparable from such a conduct.

"For however unwilling his Majesty may consent to the exertion of such powers as may endanger the safety of a single subject, yet can he not permit his own dignity, and the authority of the British Legislature, to be trampled on by force and violence, and in avowed contempt of all order, duty, and decorum."

"If the subject is aggrieved, he knows in what manner legally and constitutionally to apply for relief; but it is not suitable either to the safety or dignity of the British empire that any individuals, under the pretence of redressing grievances, should presume to violate the publick peace."

Extract from Mr. Secretary Conway's circular letter to the Governour of a neighbouring colony, dated St. James's, October 24, 1765.

"If by lenient and persuasive methods you can contribute to restore the peace and tranquillity to the provinces, on which their welfare and happiness depend, you will do a most acceptable and essential service to your country; but having taken every step which the utmost prudence and lenity can dictate, in compassion to the folly and ignorance of some misguided people, you will not, on the other hand, fail to use your utmost power for repelling all acts of outrage and violence, and to provide for the maintenance of peace and good order in the province, by such a timely exertion of force as that occasion may require; for which purpose you will make the proper application to General Gage, or Lord Colville, Commanders of his Majesty's land and naval forces in America.

"For however unwillingly his Majesty may consent to the exertion of such powers as may endanger the safety of a single subject, yet can he not permit his own dignity, and the authority of the British Legislature, to be trampled on by force and violence, and in avowed contempt of all order, duty, and decorum."

We have the pleasure to assure the publick that the Hon. Justices of the Superior Court design to open their court at the next March term, and do business as usual, the circumstances of the province being then as they now are. And,

That the Judges of Probate for the several counties in this province have also determined to open their respective courts, and do business as usual.

PHILADELPHIA, January 30.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in London to his friend here, dated November 9, 1765.

"I have the pleasure to assure you there is a plan formed for your relief by the new Ministry, who are really friends to America. It is not your mother country, it is not your King, oppresses you, but it was a bad Ministry, who carried things so far as to bring universal odium on themselves."

Feb. 6. Our advices, by private letters from Cork, are that the people of Ireland highly commend the opposition the North Americans have given to the Stamp Act; and that it was the general opinion there that that law would be repealed, or at least suspended, on the meeting of the Parliament.

By Captain Mason, from South Carolina, we have advice that the inhabitants there have been greatly alarmed with the report of an intended insurrection of the Negroes to massacre the white people throughout that province, which was to have been put in execution on Christmas Eve, and during the Holidays, but was happily discovered by a Negro woman; that after the discovery the inhabitants were under arms day and night, during the Holidays, and the strictest search made to find out the ringleaders; that circumstances appeared very strong against them, many fire arms being found concealed; and at several plantations in the country, the house arms were found to have their touch-holes plugged up; that four or five of the ringleaders were in custody, and others daily bringing in, but their trials had not come on when he sailed.

A correspondent writes us that it is under consideration of some of the Northern colonies to pass an act prohibiting the killing of lamb or young sheep for three years, and to give a large bounty for raising them, with goats of the larger kind; which are to be had at the Vineyard and Wood's Hole, in New England.

Extract of a letter from Northampton county, in this province, January 31, 1766.

"The magistrates of this county, taking into consideration the repeated complaints of the inhabitants, for want of a dew distribution of justice, by shutting up the Courts of Law, have resolved, from the extreme necessity of the case, to open the Courts, and proceed to business, as usual. By their order, all the Law Offices are opened accordingly."

Extract of a letter from St. Christopher's, dated December 23.

"Two vessels, said to be from New York for Antigua, appeared off St. John's harbour; but they would not go in, on account of the Stamps taking place there, but proceeded further. The people made heavy complaints, and not a man in the island would

keep the Stamp Officer company, though before he was universally beloved, so that he resigned his office; since which several vessels have been cleared without Stamps, and all offices go on there as usual without them; and it is thought the rest of the islands will follow their example."

Extract of a letter from Halifax, dated December 9, 1765, which may be depended upon.

"Lord Colville does not molest any vessels that arrive here without stamp clearances, &c. but allows them to pass and repass, as usual; and the Stamp Distributor has orders (it is supposed from home) not to prosecute for breach of the Stamp Law."

Feb. 20. In the London Daily Advertiser, of November 30, is the following advertisement: "The principal merchants trading to North America are desired to meet at the King's Arms tavern, in Cornhill, on Wednesday next, the 4th of December, on business of great importance."

We are informed that the measures intended to be taken by the Ministry with regard to the Stamp Act were talked of in London, when Captain Kirkwood left it, as quite uncertain and undetermined; that most of the people, especially the mercantile part, wished and hoped for an immediate repeal of the stamp, and other oppressive acts; and that it was said some great men had encouraged the merchants to write to their correspondents that they might expect the most favourable accounts, soon after the meeting of the Parliament.

We hear from New Jersey that the Gentlemen of the Law of that province met last Thursday at New Brunswick, to consider of the propriety of resuming their practice, which they have discontinued since the 1st of November last, where they were waited upon by a deputation from the Sons of Liberty, who expressed their uneasiness at the suspension of law proceedings; and it was determined, by a majority of the lawyers then convened, that they would resume their practice the 1st day of April next, whatever accounts may be received from England, or sooner, if earlier intelligence arrives of the determination of Parliament respecting the Stamp Act. Which being communicated to the deputies, who then attended, they appeared to be satisfied therewith.

At the same time deputies from the Sons of Liberty of the county of Hunterdon waited on Mr. White, Prothonotary of that county, with a request that he would open his office to transact business as usual, who received them politely, and they received assurances that the office should be opened the 1st day of April.

From Reading, in Berks county, in this province, we have advice that the public offices were opened there on Monday last.

By a Gentleman, very lately from Virginia and Maryland, we learn that the patriotick spirit, with respect to the Stamp Law, still subsists in those governments, they being determined, to a man, seemingly, to oppose it as much as in them lies; and that their only uneasiness seemed to be that the Courts of Justice were still shut, but in hopes that they would, or must, soon be open.

From North Carolina our accounts seem to be more alarming, with regard to the Stamp Act, than in any of the other colonies, that being the only place, we have yet heard of, where his Majesty's officers have acted so arbitrarily, and shown so little regard to the trade of the King's subjects, having already seized two vessels without stamps, and allowing none to go out, though at the risk of the lives, vessels, and cargoes, of those that should take them, from the enraged inhabitants; who, in spite of their Government, and the endeavours of two Captains of King's ships, are resolved to be free, being determined not to admit the Stamps to take place among them.

Captain Phipps, in the Diligence man of war, had taken upon him the office of Distributor of the Stamps, having made it known that they were to be had on board his ship, and attempted to get up to Wilmington, in order to lodge them with some Stamp Officer there; but being told that the people had a raft, properly prepared, to set him, ship, and stamps, all on fire, he thought proper to return to his old station at the mouth of the river, after he had got some craft to take out his guns, in order to lighten the vessel, to get over some shoals that were in his way.

From Detroit our intelligence of late date is that all was very quiet there, the Indians being thought to be more attached now to the English interest than they were ever known to be before.

By Captain Lockhart from Barbados, there is advice that they expected soon a new Governour for that island, said to be Lord Fitzherbert. That though the Barbadians had submitted to the Stamp Act, yet there were numbers among them who were much dissatisfied with it, and highly pleased with the opposition it met with in North America; that vessels without stamp clearances were admitted to an entry, without any scruple; and that the Collector of the Customs there behaves in the most genteel manner, being willing to give every indulgence to trade in his power, for which he is most deservedly esteemed by the inhabitants, and by all strangers that happen to go to that port.

On Friday evening last a bond for a Mediterranean pass, with an American stamp to it, was burnt at the coffee-house here; it came from an office in New York, and was on its way to Maryland, but happened to be intercepted.

WILLIAMSBURG, March 7.

Arrived in James river the Commerce, Captain Fearon, and in York river the British King, Captain Donaldson, both from London. By Capt. Donaldson we have English papers to the 30th of December, in which there is mention made of a scheme being presented to the Ministry to raise money in the colonies that will more than answer the intent of the Stamp Duty, and entirely with the consent of the people; by which, it is said, a new plan of trade will be opened, which will enrich the colonies, and greatly benefit the mother country. That a perfect good understanding continues to subsist between our Court and that of France, the latter having complied with some demands, and promised a speedy compliance with others. That the Colony Agents intend making application to Parliament for an act for the relief of insolvent debtors in America, to which it is said a compulsive clause will be desired to be inserted. That it was confidently said Mr. Wilkes will shortly be recalled to his native country, and that letters were despatched for that purpose. That advice had been received from Copenhagen that the King of Denmark was dangerously ill, and by some accounts actually dead. That his Royal Highness Prince Frederick William, his Majesty's youngest brother, died the 29th of December, in the 15th year of his age. That the Dauphin of France died at Fontainebleau the 20th of the same month, in his 37th year. That the King of Prussia is very ill of a dropsy, at his palace at Berlin. And that the Duke of Saxe Gotha is also said to be very ill.

T IRED with an involuntary recess from business for these four months past, the advantage which a news paper is generally looked upon to be of by the community, and the encouragement I have already met with from a number of the late customers to the VIRGINIA GAZETTE, have determined me to resume its publication, at the usual price of 15s. a year, and to insert ADVERTISEMENTS as formerly. I intend sending the Gazette to all the old customers, flattering myself they will countenance this undertaking; and should any choose to decline, they will please acquaint me. No pains shall be spared to give satisfaction; nor will the price of the Virginia Gazette, notwithstanding my proposal of asking the same for it as usual, be greater than that of any other news paper which may be published in the colony. The press shall likewise be as free as any Gentleman can wish, or desire; and I crave the countenance and favour of the publick no longer than my conduct may appear to merit their approbation. I shall think myself much obliged to Gentlemen who transmit me any authentick pieces of intelligence that may fall into their hands, as likewise to the Naval Officers to send a list of the entries and clearances at their respective districts; and I would likewise be glad to insert the productions of any ingenious publick spirited Gentlemen, that may tend to the improvement of mankind, or the innocent diversion and entertainment of either sex. The papers will be directed as formerly; and should any Gentlemen not get them so regularly as they could wish, they will please signify the same to me, that means may be fallen upon to remove any cause of complaint, at least as far as lies in my power. I can think of nothing further to observe at present, but to assure the publick that it will be my principal aim, as well as constant study, to approve myself

Their most devoted humble servant,

ALEX. PURDIE.

I take this opportunity to acquaint all my brethren printers that I shall expect them to send me their several news papers weekly, as they may expect the same piece of complaisance from me.

VIRGINIA, &c.

By the Hon^{ble} FRANCIS FAUQUIER, Esq; his Majesty's Lieutenant Governour, and Commander in Chief of the said Colony and Dominion:

A PROCLAMATION.

For proroguing the GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

WHEREAS the General Assembly stands prorogued to the first Tuesday in March next, and whereas I find no urgent occasion for the said Assembly's meeting at that time, I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of his Majesty's Council, by this proclamation, in his Majesty's name, to prorogue the said Assembly to the last Thursday in May next; and they are accordingly prorogued to that time.

GIVEN under my hand, and the seal of the colony, at Williamsburg, this 4th day of February, 1766, and in the 6th year of his Majesty's reign.

FRANCIS FAUQUIER.

GOD save the KING.

Advertisements.

ALL PERSONS indebted to

JOSEPH ROYLE and company are desired to pay their respective balances, as soon as possible, to Mr. John Dixon at the Printing Office, Williamsburg; who is properly authorized for that purpose, by the executors of William Hunter and Joseph Royle, deceased.

CHESTERFIELD, February 24, 1766.

RUN away from the subscriber's forge, on the 22d instant, at night, three Negro men; one of them named STEPHEN, by trade a carpenter, Virginia born, a black fellow, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, very brisk and active, speaks quick, has a pleasant countenance, and walks very nimbly. Also NED, a fire-man, a black fellow, remarkably well made for strength, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, generally laughs when he speaks, has a large mouth, which is seldom shut; Virginia born, inclinable to be fat, has a sluggish walk, and broad shoulders. Also BRUMALL, a Gold Coast Negro, about the size and height of Ned; he is a fire-man, has remarkable broad shoulders, a roll in his walk, and had a hurt on his knee lately, from which he was lame a day or two before he went off; but whether any scar on it, I know not. Both the last mentioned fellows have scars on their arms, from burns which they got by melted cinders flying on them when at work. Brumall is a yellow Negro, and has a very pleasant countenance. I can give no particular description of their clothes; I do not know of their carrying any more than their suits of cotton and osnaburghs. I will give 5l. reward for each slave, if taken up in Virginia, and delivered to me; if in Carolina, 10l. for each.

ARCHIBALD CARY.

In a few days will be published, price 1s. 3d.

AN Inquiry into the Rights

of the British colonies, intended as an answer to "The regulations lately made concerning the colonies, and the taxes imposed upon them considered." In a letter addressed to the author of that pamphlet.

By RICHARD BLAND, of Virginia.

Dedit omnibus Deus pro virili portione sapientiam, at et inaudita investigare possent et audita perpendere. LACTANTIUS.

Just published, and sold at the Printing Office, Williamsburg.

THE Virginia Almanack

FOR THE Year of our LORD GOD

1766.

Price 7d. halfpenny each, or 5s. a dozen.

To be sold at the Printing Office, Williamsburg, price 2s. 6d.

CONSIDERATIONS

on the propriety of imposing Taxes on the British colonies, for the purpose of raising a revenue by act of Parliament. Written by a Gentleman in Maryland.

WILLIAMSBURG, March 5, 1766.

RUN away from the subscriber's plantation in Powhatan, JAMES CITY county, on the 24th of last month, a Negro man named HARRY, of a middle size, has a down look, and had on cotton jacket and breeches. I bought him about 4 or 5 years ago of one Edward Yergan, living in or near Hampton; where I have reason to believe he is gone, as he was seen near this place. Whoever apprehends the said Negro; and conveys him to me, shall have 10s. reward, besides what the law allows.

THOMAS HORNSBY.

RUN away from the subscriber, in Richmond town, a convict servant man, named JOHN TURNER, by trade a shoemaker, an Englishman, wears his own black short hair, and has a remarkable club foot, which makes him halt in walking; he is dressed in a suit of new gray clothes, and has several white shirts. He went off in company with WILLIAM BROWN, a blacksmith, a servant of Mr. RICHARD ADAMS's; and they stole a couple of horses, one of which is a likely bay. They also carried with them an Irish woman, named Nell Morgan. Whoever apprehends the said Turner, and conveys him to me, shall have 10l. reward; and if taken out of the colony 20l. Five pounds reward will be given for the blacksmith, if taken in the colony, and if out of the same 10l.

GEORGE DONALD.

HANOVER, March 1, 1766.

RUN away from the subscriber, a Negro fellow named JOSEE, rather inclined to a yellow than black complexion, bitten with the smallpox, about 27 years of age, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, well made, has a sour ill natured countenance, and pretends to be a Spaniard, by his account born at Comana; he carried clothes with him which were new last fall, also some other old clothes; he has been used to go by water, and will probably endeavour to get on board some vessel, in order to escape. Whoever brings the said fellow to me shall have 5s. if taken within the colony, and if out of it 10l.

GEORGE THOMAS.

NEW YORK, January 9.

On Tuesday evening last, a great number of Gentlemen, sons of liberty, assembled at the house of Mr. William Howard, in this city, in consequence of an invitation from some of the members of their society. The whole company appeared to be unanimous in a determined opposition to the Stamp Act. Several matters were proposed for the preservation and security of the English constitution, and the rights and privileges of the subject in America. And [after setting forth and declaring their rights and liberties, their firm adherence to the English constitution, their unshaken loyalty and affection to his Majesty King George III. and his Royal House, and showing the unconstitutional nature of the Stamp Act, that if it takes place in America it will deprive his Majesty's subjects of their most sacred rights and privileges, and be attended with other dreadful and ruinous consequences to all his Majesty's dominions, not only in America, but in Great Britain, &c.] the following resolutions were proposed and agreed to by a great majority of the company, and ordered to be printed viz.

Resolved, that we will go to the last extremity, and venture our lives and fortunes, effectually to prevent the said Stamp Act from ever taking place in this city and province.

Resolved, that any person who shall deliver out or receive any instrument of writing upon stamped paper or parchment, agreeable to the said act, shall incur the highest resentment of this society, and be branded with everlasting infamy.

Resolved, that the persons who carry on business as formerly, on unstamped paper, without regard to the Stamp Act, shall be prosecuted to the utmost power of this society.

Resolved, that as we have not been concerned in publishing or propagating any thing tending to cast an odium on any society or body of men, or on the private character of any person, further than as he was a promoter or abettor of the Stamp Act, so neither will we be concerned in reporting, publishing, or propagating any thing that may affect the reputation of any individual, or body of men, otherwise than as he or they may be promoters of the said act.

Resolved, that we will, to the utmost of our power, maintain the peace and good order of this city, so far as it can be done consistently with the preservation and security of our rights and privileges.

The company then adjourned, after having agreed to meet at the same place on Tuesday evening the 21st instant, and to continue their meetings once a fortnight, unless it should be necessary to meet sooner, of which notice would be given.

We hear that business is carried on at the public offices in Boston as usual, without regarding the Stamp Act.

Captain Haviland, from London, we hear, has on board ten packages of the detestable stamped paper, &c. The Captain excuses himself by saying that when he took them on board there was no talk of any dissatisfaction of the colonies on account of them.

Thursday morning, 9 o'clock. We have just received certain intelligence that about 12 o'clock last night a company of armed men went on board Capt. Haviland's brig, lying at or near Cruger's dock; and after obliging the people to deliver up the keys, and get lights, they opened the hatches, searched the vessel from stern to stern, and seized the stamped papers for this province and Connecticut, amounting to ten boxes, with which they loaded a large boat, and proceeded with them up the river to the ship yards, where they broke the packages to pieces, and with some barrels, and other combustibles, made a bonfire of them and their contents. When the whole was entirely consumed, they all quietly dispersed, without doing any mischief, or even alarming the city.

Governour Rogers, well known for his military achievements in the late American war, is come over in the packet.

We hear that Col. Robertson, who was lately appointed Barrack Master General for North America, is appointed Lieutenant Governour of Canada; and that Governour Murray is ordered home.

Jan. 20. We can assure the publick, from good authority, that Lord Colvill has lately declared that he would not interrupt any vessel without stamped clearances until he had received orders from England for that purpose.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in London to his friend in this city, dated November 9, 1765.

"I am fully sensible of the malignity of the late measures, and your ——— has well delineated the authors. Your zeal is commendable; but you should not impute your grievances to the whole, which were imposed by the influence of a Ministry universally detested, and now removed, and the new Ministry entirely in your favour. An entire new system in your favour is adopted, and the truly noble Lord Dartmouth at the head of the Board of Trade, your

friend out of judgment, being fully convinced of the mutual interest of the colonies and their mother country; so that a few months will give a new face to your affairs.

"I contributed my mite to his information, and he was so condescending as to call on me, and thank me, and opened his sentiments without reserve. He is a charming man."

Extract of another letter from London, Nov. 9, 1765.

"The new Ministry are determined to relieve you, and I hope a few months will make a great alteration in your American affairs."

The linen manufactory is brought to such a pitch in this government already that a piece of green linen was last Wednesday sold in our market for eight shillings per yard.

Jan. 27. We are desired to insert the following intelligence concerning the Illinois, which may be depended upon as authentic.

Certain advices have been received of the Illinois having been taken possession of, early in October, by the party who set out in August from fort Pitt. The French Commandant has delivered up all the forts, and all the countries ceded by the treaty (to Capt. Stirling, who commanded the detachment) and was preparing to set out with the French garrison, for a settlement they have on the other side of the river.

The intelligence from that quarter mentions that the resort of Indians at fort Chartres in the spring is very great, often amounting to 4000 and upwards; and the trade there, of course, very considerable. This, comprehending that with the Indians on the Onabache, which the traders who proceed to the Illinois country, from the provinces of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, must naturally fall into, as they pass close by them, in their route, will be an object of great consideration to those provinces. The precautions necessary to be taken, to almost ensure success, is to set out early, in order to gain the fort, both for security before the tumultuous assembly of so many Indians, as well as to arrive before the French traders shall be able to pick up the Mississippi; in order to effect which they cannot be too early in building their craft at fort Pitt, indeed the adventurers of next year have no time to lose.

Jan. 30. Private letters from England by the late vessel advise that great uneasiness prevails among the manufacturers in general, and all that have any connexion with them; that several petitions were preparing to be presented to the Parliament, as soon as it met, to represent grievances, and obtain a repeal of the acts that have occasioned them, particularly the Stamp Act, which was becoming as odious in England as in America. That great numbers warmly interested themselves against it, both by speaking and writing. That the opposition made to it in America was in general highly approved in England, and it was the current report and opinion in London that the act would be immediately repealed or suspended, as soon as the Parliament met. That General Amherst was often consulted, and always gave advice, and acted as a true friend to the colonies, contrary to the opinion that had been conceived of him by many people in America. That there were various opinions among the great men concerning the sentiments that the Ministry and Parliament would have of our determined opposition to the Stamp Act, and what would be their proceedings thereupon. Some, who have been so intoxicated with power as to think themselves entitled to an implicit obedience, whatever contradiction might appear between their actions, and the design of their appointment, received the news of our proceedings with high resentment and rage, and seemed disposed to enforce the act, whatever absurdities it might lead them to, or however ruinous the consequences to Great Britain, as well as the colonies; but the nation in general thought more reasonably. And as the act so plainly appeared to be unconstitutional and destructive in its nature, both to Great Britain and her colonies, it was thought those persons who had been more active in preventing its execution, and thereby the mischief it would have occasioned, will at home be considered as the greatest friends to the English government and nation. And that those who have been most officious in promoting its operation will be considered in a contrary light, and as being more attentive to preserve the favour of men in power than the rights and privileges of their country.

We hear Capt. Chambers brought over 3 packets of stamped paper, &c. which were lodged in the city hall.

As the noise of the American resentment to the Stamp Act must have been known in London before this cargo was shipped, it is a little surprising that any Captain should be so hardy as to take them on board.

Feb. 3. On Tuesday last Captain Mackey arrived here from Barbados, in 22 days. He says two vessels lately arrived there from the continent without stamped papers, and were admitted to an entry; but that a man of war was despatched to Antigua to the Admiral, to know his sentiments of the matter.

Saturday morning arrived Captain Lindsey from St. Eustatia, in 22 days, but last from South Carolina in eight. He says there has been much disturbance in Georgia about the cursed Stamp Act, and 150 sail of vessels lay ready loaded at Charlestown when he came away, and that not one of them could obtain a clearance for departure.

From the Floridas they write as if the Stamp Act is got among them. They expect to see no more vessels with provisions, and are in great fear of starving.

A letter from London, dated November 26, 1765, received via Boston, says that all the restrictions will be taken off the North American trade as soon as the Parliament meets; and that more good will be done for us than we expected.

Last night arrived here from Amsterdam, but last from Falmouth, in six weeks, the brig Bristol Packet, Captain Brigstock; but came away in such a hurry that he left all his English papers behind. By him we also learn that great indulgences were intended to be granted America; that an account of all the American proceedings was arrived there by Captain Bolderston, in the Earl of Halifax packet, who got into Falmouth the 10th of December.

Feb. 6. A correspondent of character writes from London that he was called upon to wait on Secretary Conway the next day; that he made no doubt it was to inquire of him concerning American Affairs, which then "arrested the attention of all, of this highest rank and ablest heads in England," and that he would not fail to give as just and favourable accounts of his dear country as he was able.

At a meeting of the Sons of Liberty, last Tuesday evening, at the house of Mr. Howard in this city, a committee was appointed (by the unanimous consent of the whole body) in order to correspond with the Sons of Liberty in the neighbouring colonies. The next meeting is appointed to be held at the same place, on Tuesday evening the 18th instant.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in London to his friend in Connecticut.

"The glorious and spirited behaviour of our countrymen, together with the late change in the administration, has altered the thoughts of many; and I believe will occasion a new system of politics in regard to America, and I hope will prove very beneficial both to the colonies and to the mother country. The act for taxing you, I always thought, and have often told you, I could never think consistent with the principles of this free government; but as I am now to deprive you of a trial by jury, I think it necessary, both in letter and spirit, to the 29th article of the Magna Charta, &c."

PHILADELPHIA, January 16.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in London to his friend here, dated Nov. 9, 1765.

"Before this comes to hand I presume you will have heard of the great loss this nation has sustained by the death of the King's uncle, the Duke of Cumberland, who died very suddenly the evening of the 21st ult. I apprehend it will appear he was a wise Prince, and steady counsellor, and frequently found means of moderating contending parties in the Ministry. I find the North American colonies, as well as the West India islands, take the Act of Parliament for establishing Stamp Duties, &c. very hardly, which indeed was carrying the prerogative of the British Parliament to an unjustifiable length, unless you had previously, by your Assemblies, consented thereto; but you are doubtless apprised of the change in the Ministry, which will, I hope, be productive of some good towards you, as well as us; some of the new Ministry, having, to my knowledge, taken much pains to inform themselves of the nature and state of trade, especially of the American trade, and the cause of its present decline, which they seem determined to have remedied at the next meeting of the Parliament.

In another letter from London, of the same date, it is said: "In the Duke of Cumberland the King has lost an able counsellor, and the kingdom a most faithful friend. The present Administration are friends to America, and will serve it."

Besides the above, we can inform our readers that we have seen several other letters from London by the last packet, wrote by men of candour and ability, the purport of which is, that they heartily condole with us in the oppressive measures taken by the late Ministry; that they applaud us for the spirit we have shown, in opposing these measures; that hundreds of the people of England make our cause their own, and highly commend us for the noble stand we have made in the cause of liberty; that the trading part of the nation were much alarmed at the smallness of the orders, as well as remittances, from the colonies of late, owing to the restrictions laid on our trade, which they were resolved to have taken off at the next meeting of Parliament, if possible; and that it was not doubted but the present Ministry would endeavour to get the Stamp Act repealed, which had thrown the whole English world into the greatest convulsions.